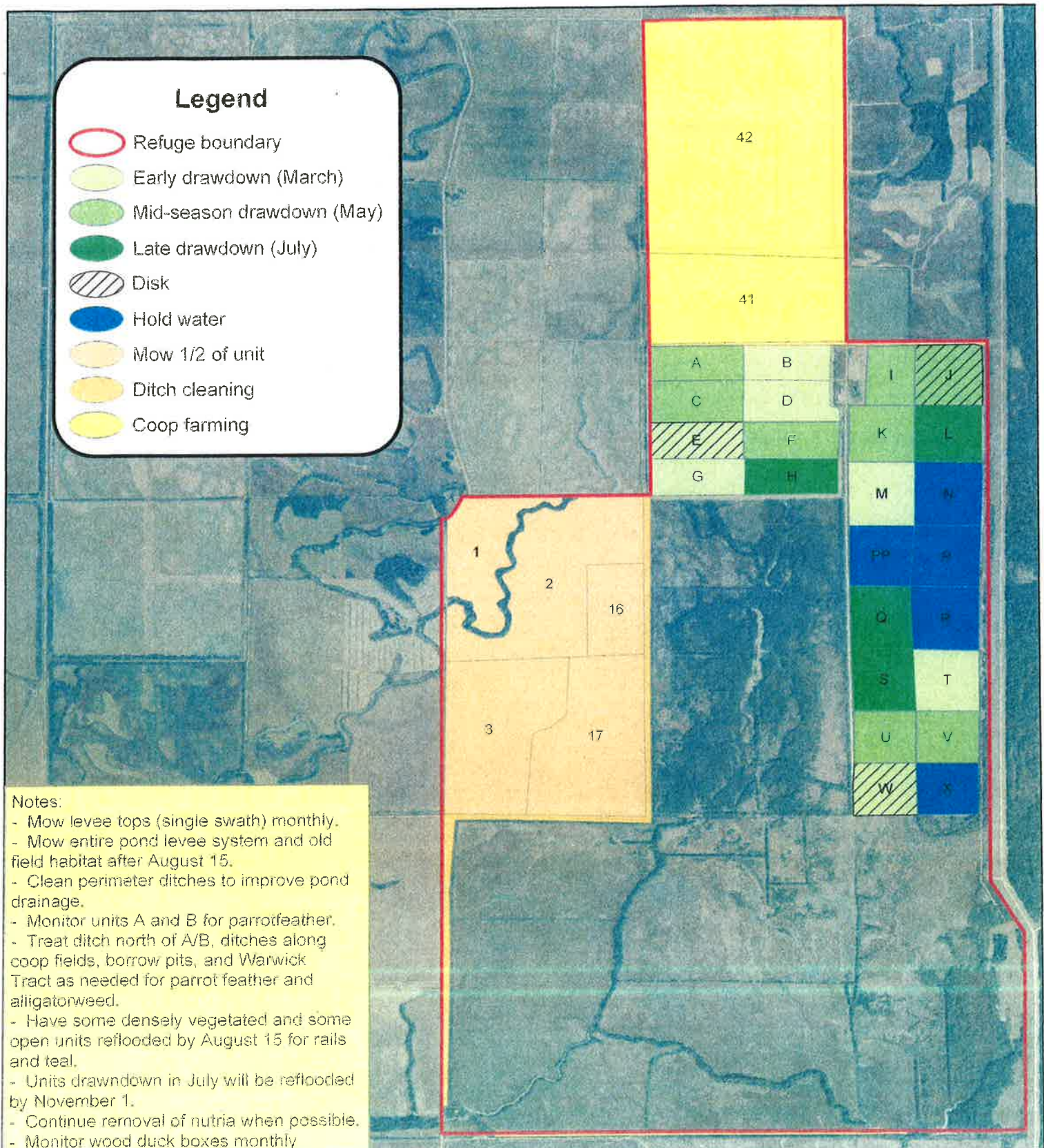


Coldwater River National Wildlife Refuge

Annual Habitat Work Plan - 2012



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



North Mississippi Refuges Complex
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R.L. Rosamond 03/30/2012

Coldwater River NWR
 AHWP - ~~2011~~ 2012

Ditches north of ponds and southwest of unit G	?	Invasive control	No measurable objective developed. Need to control parrotfeather and alligator weed.	Parrot feather present on new property, detected in ditch sw of unit G in Mar. 2008. Few isolated plants found in unit A in fall 2008. Seen again in fall 2010. Infestation present in ditch north of A/B. Alligator weed on Warwick along toe of ACOE levee.	Spray with Habitat.	PUP
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Coldwater River NWR

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Pond S	18	Wintering dabbling ducks, fall migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl. Provide 225 acres of fall foraging habitat for migrating shorebirds	Disked in '11. Little to no vegetation present	Late drawdown (July 1) for fall migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk/spray as needed to achieve desired vegetation.	PUP
Pond T	19	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '11. Rush at high end may cause problems	Early drawdown (Mar. 1) for spring migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP
Pond U	16	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '11. Little to no vegetation present	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP
Pond V	16	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in 2010, some thick vegetation remaining from 2011.	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/disk/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migration rails.	PUP
Pond W	15	Wintering dabbling ducks, spring migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked '08. Some small willow patches remain.	Early drawdown. Disk, wait two weeks, reflood and hold water for willow control.	N/A
Pond X	15	Secretive Marsh birds	Emergent marsh	Diverse assemblage of emergent vegetation. Willows becoming denser.	Hold water to see if any submerged aquatic vegetation responds. Disk soft rush if dries enough.	N/A
Throughout	2374	Invasive control	No measurable objective developed. Need to control nutria	Nutria numbers reduced but still present.	Trap/shoot as encountered.	N/A
Throughout	2374	Nesting structures	No measurable objective developed. Maintain and monitor wood duck nest structures.	Seven wood duck nest boxes present	Continue monitoring—try to visit once a month. Add 3 more. Relocate box still on ponds to more appropriate site.	N/A
Ditches throughout	?	Maintain water control capabilities	No measurable objective developed. Need to maintain ditches to allow draining moist-soil units as needed.	Beaver dams present. Build up of debris. Trees growing in ditches	Remove blockages where they occur.	N/A

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Pond J	20	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '09. Dense vegetation remains from '11. Issues with Bermudagrass. Portions of unit don't dry well.	Mid-season drawdown (May). Disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation.	
Pond K	18	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in 2010. Dense vegetation remains from '11	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/disk/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP
Pond L	18	Wintering dabbling ducks, fall migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl. Provide 225 acres of fall foraging habitat for migrating shorebirds	Disked in entirely in '08. Portion disked in '11.	Late drawdown (July 1) for fall migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk/spray as needed to achieve desired vegetation.	PUP
Pond M	21	Wintering dabbling ducks, spring migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked '08. Unable to pump - rely on rainwater to fill. Rushes colonizing the perimeter, may be problem.	Early drawdown (Mar. 1) for spring migrating shorebirds. Mow/spray/disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation.	PUP
Pond N/O	20	Secretive Marshbirds	Emergent marsh	Need to smooth bottom and level old levee in center. Some willow encroachment and baccharis.	Hold water as long as possible. to see if any submerged aquatic vegetation responds. Disk if dries. Mow/disk vegetation on old levee (separating N and O)	N/A
Pond PP	17	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Bottoms need to be smoothed. Willows prevalent in unit.	Hold water to see if any submerged aquatic vegetation responds.	N/A
Pond P	20	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Bottoms need to be smoothed. Willow and buttonbush over 50% of unit	Hold water to see if any submerged aquatic vegetation responds. Disk edges if dries enough.	N/A
Pond Q	18	Wintering dabbling ducks, fall migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl. Provide 225 acres of fall foraging habitat for migrating shorebirds	Disked in '11. Little to no vegetation present	Late drawdown (July 1) for fall migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk/spray as needed to achieve desired vegetation.	PUP
Pond R	21	Secretive Marshbirds	Emergent marsh	Diverse assemblage of emergent vegetation. Approximately 50% of area covered by willow (<i>Salix nigra</i>) and groundsel-tree (<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>)	Hold water to see if any submerged aquatic vegetation responds.	N/A

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Pond B	14	Wintering dabbling ducks, spring migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '08. Cut coffeeweed stalks remain from '11.	Early drawdown (Mar. 1) for spring migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Monitor for parrotfeather. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails	PUP (parrotfeather)
Pond C	20	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '10. Some dense vegetation from '11 still remains. Has tendency to grow cocklebur).	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/disk/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP
Pond D	18	Wintering dabbling ducks, spring migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '11, still pretty rough. Water held shallowly through winter.	Early drawdown (Mar. 1) for spring migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	N/A
Pond E	16	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '08. Herbicide treatment in 2010. Willows and lotus present over much of unit.	Early drawdown. Disk, wait two weeks, reflood and hold water for willow control.	N/A
Pond F	17	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in 2010, some thick vegetation remaining from 2011.	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/disk/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migration rails.	PUP
Pond G	16	Winter dabbling ducks, spring migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Disked in '11. Little to no vegetation present	Early drawdown (Mar. 1) for spring migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP
Pond H	17	Wintering dabbling ducks, fall migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl. Provide 225 acres of fall foraging habitat for migrating shorebirds	Disked in '10. Potential for cocklebur. Little vegetation present.	Late drawdown (July 1) for fall migrating shorebirds. Mow/disk/spray as needed to achieve desired vegetation.	N/A
Pond I	14	Wintering dabbling ducks	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl	Bottom needs to be smoothed. Disked in part in '10	Mid-season drawdown (May). Mow/disk/spray if needed to achieve desired vegetation. Consider flooding in August for migrating rails.	PUP

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Management Unit	Acres	Conservation Target(s) (Habitat/Wildlife)	Habitat Objective	Current Condition	Management Prescription	Supporting Documentation
Field 1	31	Fallow Fields/ Grassland Birds	Provide 295 acres of old field habitat for grassland birds and other early successional species (i.e. rabbits and quail)	Fallow Field	Mow 1/2 of unit in 2012, other 1/2 in 2013.	N/A
Field 2	85	Fallow Fields/ Grassland Birds	Provide 295 acres of old field habitat for grassland birds and other early successional species (i.e. rabbits and quail)	Fallow Field	Mow 1/2 of unit in 2012, other 1/2 in 2013.	N/A
Field 3	72	Fallow Fields/ Grassland Birds	Provide 295 acres of old field habitat for grassland birds and other early successional species (i.e. rabbits and quail)	Fallow Field	Mow 1/2 of unit in 2012, other 1/2 in 2013.	N/A
Field 16	24	Fallow Fields/ Grassland Birds	Provide 295 acres of old field habitat for grassland birds and other early successional species (i.e. rabbits and quail)	Fallow Field	Mow 1/2 of unit in 2012, other 1/2 in 2013.	N/A
Field 17	82	Fallow Fields/ Grassland Birds	Provide 295 acres of old field habitat for grassland birds and other early successional species (i.e. rabbits and quail)	Fallow Field	Mow 1/2 of unit in 2012, other 1/2 in 2013.	N/A
Field 41 (1563)	77	Croplands for waterfowl	No habitat objective	Agricultural field	Cooperative farmer to plant milo. Leave 25% standing and reflood in late fall.	Cooperative farming agreement
Field 42 (2555)	222	Croplands for waterfowl	No habitat objective	Agricultural field	Cooperative farmer to plant milo. Leave 25% standing and reflood in late fall.	Cooperative farming agreement
Catfish Ponds	420	Specific targets below	Specific objectives below	See below	Evaluate impacts of disking and herbicide application on amphibians and invertebrates in units. Continue normal management but sample units for amphibians and inverts.	N/A
Pond A	16	Wintering dabbling ducks/Fall migrating shorebirds	Provide 190 acres of moist-soil habitat for over-wintering waterfowl/Provide 225 acres of fall foraging habitat for migrating shorebirds.	Open water, few scattered remnants of brush piles. Typically difficult to drain, holds water very well, very little vegetation of any type in water.	Hold water until ditch level drops sufficiently to drain. Try to dry this summer, mow coffee weed/ cocklebur as needed. Monitor for parrotfeather.	PUP (parrotfeather)